



RECREATIONAL GILL NET INFORMATION

Revised June 2003

MARINE RESOURCES DIVISION (MRD) JURISDICTION

FISH MAY NOT BE SOLD OR BARTERED

LICENSE: \$51.00

LENGTH: Up to 300'

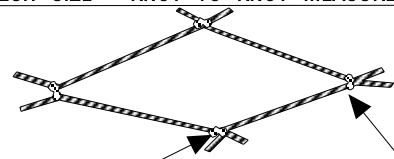
It is unlawful to use any net or seine, except a cast net or minnow seine in any river, creek, stream or bayou.

EXCERPTS FROM REGULATION 2003-MR-18, PERTAINING TO RECREATIONAL GILL NETTING

It is unlawful to:

- use a recreational gill net to take or attempt to take fish beyond 300 feet from any shoreline (14)
- use a recreational gill net in any Gulf waters including Pelican Bay (7)
- use any nets in any manner so as to prevent access to or from any pier, wharf, dock, marina, or boat launching ramp (14)
- leave any gill or trammel net unattended (16)
- use any gill net or other entangling net to take or attempt to take fish within 300 feet of any of the following "relic" piers: Zundel's, Old Daphne Steamship, Battles, and Quarantine, or within 300 feet of any artificial reef area established by the MRD (14)
- remove mullet roe or otherwise process roe mullet aboard any boat or vessel in the waters of this State (19)
- A recreational gill net licensee shall have only one net in use at any time and shall possess only one net on board a boat in the waters of Alabama. It shall be unlawful for a recreational gill net to be on board a boat with any commercial net, seine, or purse seine. It shall be unlawful to use or possess a recreational gill net in conjunction with the use or possession of any commercial net, seine, or purse seine. (20) (a)
- A recreational gill net licensee shall take or possess only one standard fish box of fish per day. A standard fish box measures 15 inches by 15 inches by 24 inches. (20) (b)
- Recreational gill nets shall bear a tag or float showing the name and license number of the licensee. (20) (c)
- The possession limit on mullet caught by cast net or by snagging is 25 fish per boat per day or 25 fish per person per day when caught from the shore during the period of October 24 through December 31 of each year. It shall be unlawful to possess on board a boat more than 25 mullet while cast netting or snagging in waters closed to the use of gill nets. From October 24 through December 31, it is unlawful to take mullet by snagging or by the use of a cast net in Theodore Industrial Canal, Dog River, Fowl River or tributaries thereof. (18)
- It shall be unlawful to possess game fish (spotted seatrout, red drum, tarpon or fresh water game fish [consult Ala. Div. of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries regs.]) in conjunction with the use or possession of any recreational net or seine. Gamefish must be immediately returned to the water. (21)
- Possession of mullet on board any vessel containing any type of entangling net (or if taken by cast net) is prohibited:
From the first day after Labor Day until noon on Oct. 24th north of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW) in Bon Secour Bay and Mobile Bay.
From noon on Oct. 24 to midnight Oct. 31 north of a line running the north shore of Theodore Industrial Canal (TIC) then running southeastward along the north edge of the Theodore Ship Channel (TSC) to its junction with Mobile Ship Channel (MSC) and then to Great Pt. Clear. (17)
- It is illegal to possess or use any entangling net, on (including aboard a boat), or in, the waters of Bon Secour Bay and Mobile Bay:
From midnight on Oct. 23 to noon Oct. 24 north of the GIWW.
From midnight on Oct. 31 to noon Nov. 1 north of a line running the north shore of TSC then running southeastward along the north edge of the Theodore Ship Channel to its junction with MSC and then to Great Pt. Clear. (17)

MESH SIZE - KNOT TO KNOT MEASUREMENT



outside of one knot

to the inside of the other

KNOT TO KNOT (BAR MEASURE) IS THE LENGTH OF THE FULL BAR MEASURED FROM THE OUTSIDE OF ONE KNOT TO THE INSIDE OF THE OTHER

Little Lagoon

- Closed to the use of recreational gill nets from October 1 through April 30 of each year.
- Closed from sunset to sunrise.
- Closed to the use of gill nets with mesh size of less than one and one-half (1 1/2") inches knot to knot.
- Persons utilizing a recreational gill net in Little Lagoon must obtain and possess a "Special Use" permit available from Marine Resources Div. office in Gulf Shores. Call (251) 968-7576.

* CLOSED AREAS / INSIDE WATERS

Inside Waters (bays, etc.) - Mesh size: 1 3/8" knot to knot or larger.

- It shall be unlawful for any person to use any gill net or seine to take fish in **any marked navigational channel**, Little Lagoon (Rule 220-3-.64), Theodore Industrial Canal, Little Lagoon Pass, Perdido Pass, or **any man-made canal** (including but not limited to the following bays and canals on Dauphin Island: Quivera Bay, Polaris Lagoon, Port Royal Lagoon, Lafitte Bay, Indian Bay, Indian Canal, Buchanan Bay, Columbia Bay, Colony Cove, Spanish Bay, Barcelona Bay, Salt Creek, Government Cut (Drury Pass), and Billy Goat Hole). Use of any gill net or seine to take or attempt to take fish within 300 feet of the mouth of Dog River, Theodore Industrial Canal, East Fowl River, West Fowl River, Bayou Coden, Bayou la Batre, and the Mobile Bay entrance to Billy Goat Hole/Government Cut in Mobile County, or Fly Creek, Fish River, Magnolia River, Graham Bayou, Wolf Creek, Mifflin Creek, Roberts Bayou, Palmetto Creek, Soldier Creek, Perdido Pass and Little Lagoon Pass in Baldwin County is prohibited. (13)
- From **January 1 through the day after Labor Day** of each year it is unlawful to use any recreational gill net or other entangling net to take or attempt to take any fish in all waters inside of a meandering line beginning at the east end of Dauphin Island at the Park and Beach Board pier and running in a northwestwardly direction along the northern shore of Little Dauphin Island to its intersection with the Dauphin Island Bridge, and then northwardly along the east side of the Dauphin Island Bridge to its intersection with the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, then westwardly along the southern edge of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway to Aloe Bay Channel marker "BA, F1(2+1) G 6s," then southwardly to Aloe Bay Channel marker number "2" and then to the western end of the Dauphin Island Airport runway, then eastwardly along the northern shore of Dauphin Island to the east end of Dauphin Island at the Park and Beach Board Pier. (12)
- From **October 24 through December 31** of each year it shall be unlawful to use any set nets (gill nets) in the waters of Bon Secour Bay south of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway from Oyster Bay west to the last Western way navigational marker and from that point southwestward to the northwestern tip of the Fort Morgan Peninsula. During this time period, this area shall be open to **strike nets** but these nets cannot be used within 300 feet of any pier, wharf, dock, or boat launching ramp in this area. "Strike net" means a gill net that is set and used from a boat in a circular pattern and is **not anchored or secured to the water bottom or shore and which is immediately and actively retrieved.** (11)

ALL FISHING REGULATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE, SO BEFORE GOING FISHING CHECK WITH THE MARINE RESOURCES DIVISION FOR ANY CHANGES. • DAUPHIN ISLAND - (251) 861-2882 • GULF SHORES - (251) 968-7576 •